

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8035–S8127

Measures Introduced: Eight bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3005–3012, S.J. Res. 51, S. Res. 348, and S. Con. Res. 134.

Pages S8104–05

Measures Reported:

S. 1510, to revise the laws of the United States appertaining to United States cruise vessels, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 106–396)

S. 1810, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify and improve veterans' claims and appellate procedures, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 106–397)

S. 3011, to increase, effective as of December 1, 2000, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans. (S. Rept. No. 106–398)

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Measures Passed:

Galveston Hurricane National Remembrance Day: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 134, designating September 8, 2000, as Galveston Hurricane National Remembrance Day.

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PNTR (Permanent Normal Trade Relations) for China: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to the consideration of H.R. 4444, to authorize extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to the People's Republic of China, and to establish a framework for relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China. **Pages S8035–41, S8044–45, S8048–69**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the motion to proceed to the consideration of the bill on Thursday, September 7, 2000, with a vote to occur on the adoption of the motion to proceed.

Energy/Water Development Appropriations: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 4733, making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, taking

action on the following amendments purposed thereto:

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Pending:

Domenici Amendment No. 4032, to strike certain environment related provisions. **Page S8075**

Schumer/Collins Amendment No. 4033, to establish a Presidential Energy Commission to explore long- and short-term responses to domestic energy shortages in supply and severe spikes in energy prices. **Page S8075**

Daschle (for Baucus) Amendment No. 4081, to strike certain provisions relating to revision of the Missouri River Master Water Control Manual.

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A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill and pending amendments on Thursday, September 7, 2000, with a vote to occur on the pending Daschle Amendment No. 4081. **Page S8126**

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that the vitiation order with respect to the agreement for consideration of S. 1608, to provide annual payments to the States and counties from National Forest System lands managed by the Forest Service, and the re-vested Oregon and California Railroad and reconveyed Coos Bay Wagon Road grant lands managed predominately by the Bureau of Land Management, for use by the counties in which the lands are situated for the benefit of the public schools, roads, emergency and other public purposes; to encourage and provide new mechanisms for cooperation between counties and the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to make necessary investments in Federal lands, and reaffirm the positive connection between Federal Lands counties and Federal Lands, be extended until 12 noon on Friday.

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Removal of Injunction of Secrecy: The injunction of secrecy was removed from the following treaty:

Convention for International Carriage by Air (Treaty Doc. No. 106–45)

The treaty was transmitted to the Senate today, considered as having been read for the first time, and

referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and was ordered to be printed.

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Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Joseph R. Biden, Jr., of Delaware, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Fifty-fifth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Rod Grams, of Minnesota, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Fifty-fifth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

2 Army nominations in the rank of general.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Navy.

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Communications:

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Executive Reports of Committees:

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Statements on Introduced Bills:

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Additional Cosponsors:

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Amendments Submitted:

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Notices of Hearings:

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Authority for Committees:

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Additional Statements:

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Privileges of the Floor:

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Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 8:23 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, September 7, 2000. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8126.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FIRESTONE TIRE RECALL

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation held oversight hearings to examine issues surrounding the investigation and recall of Firestone ATX, ATX II, and Wilderness AT tires and Ford Explorer rollovers, receiving testimony from Sue Bailey, Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation; Masatoshi Ono and Gary Crigger, both of Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc., Nashville, Tennessee; Helen Petruskas, Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, Michigan; and Joan Claybrook, Public Citizen, and David Pittle, Consumers Union, both of Washington, D.C.

Hearings recessed subject to call.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Lt. Gen. Peter Pace, USMC, for appointment to the grade of general and to be Commander-in-Chief, United States Southern Command, Lt. Gen. Charles R. Holland, USAF, for appointment to the grade of general and to be Commander-in-Chief, United States Special Operations Command, and Maj. Gen. Robert B. Flowers, USA, for appointment to the grade of lieutenant general and to be the Chief of Engineers, United States Army, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf. Lt. Gen. Holland was introduced by Senator Byrd.

MEDICAID UPPER PAYMENT LIMITS

Committee on Finance: Committee held oversight hearings to examine alleged States' practices of setting the maximum rates that can be paid to Medicaid providers, known as upper payment limits, to obtain excessive Federal matching funds at the expense of the other States and contrary to the intent of the program, receiving testimony from Michael F. Mangano, Principal Deputy Inspector General, and Timothy Westmoreland, Director, Center for Medicaid and State Operations, Health Care Financing Administration, both of the Department of Health and Human Services; and Kathryn G. Allen, Associate Director, Health Financing and Public Health Issues, Health, Education, and Human Services Division, General Accounting Office.

Hearings recessed subject to call.

TAIWAN ACCESSION TO THE WTO

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee held hearings to examine issues relating to the proposed accession of the Peoples Republic of China and the Republic of China on Taiwan to the World Trade Organization, receiving testimony from Senator Kyl; and John R. Bolton, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C., former Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs.

Hearings recessed subject to call.

ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE AND PRIVACY

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded hearings to examine the effect that new surveillance technologies is having on the important public policy balance between personal privacy rights and law enforcement in the digital age, focusing on the FBI Carnivore system, after receiving testimony from Donald M. Kerr, Assistant Director, and Larry R. Parkinson, General Counsel, both of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Kevin V. Di Gregory, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, and Martha Stansell-Gamm, Chief, Computer